

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application with the listing of claims as follows:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A processor-implemented method for automatically identifying a counter party position for a short or long position, the method comprising:

receiving at a first terminal at least two member short positions;

receiving at the first terminal at least two member long positions;

identifying via a processor at the first terminal a selected short position from the at least two member short positions and a selected long position from the at least two member long positions, the selected short position and the selected long position identified by parameters associated with the positions;

~~providing sufficient information from the first terminal to a second terminal and to a third terminal to allow a transaction between the selected short position and the selected long position;~~ and

executing the transaction ~~as between members of a membership~~ between the selected member long position and the selected member short position in compliance of a membership;

wherein the transaction includes a system-facilitated lending on a pro-rata basis between the selected positions if total selection member long position is greater than total

selection member short position for a given financial instrument and borrowing on a pro-rata basis if total selection member short position is greater than total selection member long position for a given financial instrument.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising filtering the at least two short positions or the at least two long positions according to filter parameters.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the filter parameter is a percentage.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the filter parameter is a member identity.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the filter parameter is a limit on the number of counter parties.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein identifying includes matching CUSIP information associated with the at least two short positions and CUSIP information associated with the at least two long positions.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the at least two short positions include short positions in different securities.

8. (Currently Amended) A medium storing computer executable ~~software code~~ instructions to perform a method for automatically identifying a counter party position for a short or long position, the method comprising:

receiving at a first terminal at least two member short positions;

receiving at the first terminal at least two member long positions;

identifying at the first terminal a selected short position from the at least two member short positions and a selected long position from the at least two member long positions, the selected short position and the selected long position identified by parameters associated with the positions;

~~providing sufficient information from the first terminal to a second terminal and a third terminal to allow a transaction between the selected short position and the selected long position; and~~

executing the transaction as ~~between members of a membership~~ between the selected member long position and the selected member short position in compliance of a membership;

wherein the transaction includes a system-facilitated lending on a pro-rata basis between the selected positions if total selection member long position is greater than total selection member short position for a given financial instrument and borrowing on a pro-rata basis if total selection member short position is greater than total selection member long position for a given financial instrument.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer executable software code instructions stored thereon, the code instructions for automatically identifying a counter party position for a short or long position, the code instructions comprising:

code instructions to receive at a first terminal at least two member short

positions;

~~code instructions~~ to receive at the first terminal at least two member long positions;

~~code instructions~~ to identify at the first terminal a selected short position from the at least two member short positions and a selected long position from the at least two member long positions, the selected short position and the selected long position identified by parameters associated with the positions;

~~code to provide sufficient information from the first terminal to a second terminal and a third terminal to allow a transaction between the selected short position and the selected long position; and~~

~~code instructions~~ to execute the transaction as between members of a membership between the selected long position and the selected short position, wherein the transaction includes a system-facilitated lending on a pro-rata basis between the selected positions if total selection member long position is greater than total selection member short position for a given financial instrument and borrowing on a pro-rata basis if total selection member short position is greater than total selection member long position for a given financial instrument.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A programmed computer~~ An apparatus for automatically identifying a counter party position for a short or long position, comprising:

a memory having at least one region for storing computer executable instructions
~~program code~~, and

a processor for executing the instructions ~~program code~~ stored in the memory,
wherein the instructions ~~program code~~ comprises:

~~code~~ instructions to receive at a first terminal at least two member short positions;

~~code~~ instructions to receive at the first terminal at least two member long
positions;

~~code~~ instructions to identify at the first terminal a selected short position from the
at least two member short positions and a selected long position from the at least two
member long positions, the selected short position and the selected long position
identified by parameters associated with the positions;

~~code to provide sufficient information from the first terminal to a second terminal and
a third terminal to allow a transaction between the selected short position and the selected
long position; and~~

~~code~~ instructions to execute the transaction as between members of a membership
between the selected long position and the selected short position wherein the transaction
includes a system-facilitated lending on a pro-rata basis between the selected positions if total
selection member long position is greater than total selection member short position for a
given financial instrument and borrowing on a pro-rata basis if total selection member short
position is greater than total selection member long position for a given financial instrument.

11. (Currently Amended) A processor-implemented method for automatically identifying a counter party position for a short or long position, the method comprising:

receiving at a first terminal at least two member short positions for securities identified by CUSIP;

receiving at the first terminal at least two member long positions for securities identified by CUSIP;

filtering the at least two short positions or the at least two long positions according to filter parameters;

identifying via a processor at the first terminal a selected short position from the at least two member short positions and a selected long position from the at least two member long positions, the selected short position and the selected long position identified by comparing and matching the CUSIP of the respective selected short and long positions;

~~providing sufficient information from the first terminal to a second terminal and to a third terminal to allow a transaction between the selected short position and the selected long position; and~~

executing the transaction as ~~between members of a membership~~ between the selected member long position and the selected member short position in compliance of a membership;

wherein the transaction includes a system-facilitated lending on a pro-rata basis between the selected positions if total selection member long position is greater than total

selection member short position for a given financial instrument and borrowing on a pro-rata basis if total selection member short position is greater than total selection member long position for a given financial instrument.

12. (Currently Amended) A processor-implemented method for automatically identifying a counter party position for a short or long position, the method comprising:

identifying via a processor at least two member short positions;

sending information on the at least two member short positions to a first terminal;

receiving ~~sufficient~~ information of the identified positions from the first terminal to allow a transaction between a selected short position and a selected long position, the selected short position one of the at least two member short positions, wherein the selected short position is identified from the at least two member short positions and the selected long position is identified from at least two member long positions by parameters associated with the positions, and information on the at least two member long positions is sent to the first terminal; and

executing the transaction as ~~between members of a membership~~ between the selected member long position and the selected member short position in compliance with a membership;

wherein the transaction includes a system-facilitated lending on a pro-rata basis between the selected positions if total selection member long position is greater than total

selection member short position for a given financial instrument and borrowing on a pro-rata basis if total selection member short position is greater than total selection member long position for a given financial instrument.

13. (Currently Amended) A processor-implemented method for automatically identifying a counter party position for a short or long position, the method comprising:

identifying via a processor at least two member long positions;

sending information on the at least two member long positions to a first terminal;

receiving ~~sufficient~~ information of the identified positions from the first terminal to allow a transaction between a selected long position and a selected short position, the selected long position one of the at least two member long positions, wherein the selected long position is identified from the at least two member long positions and the selected short position is identified from at least two member short positions by parameters associated with the positions, and information on the at least two member short positions is sent to the first terminal; and

executing the transaction ~~as between members of a membership~~ between the selected long position and the selected short position in compliance with a membership;

wherein the transaction includes a system-facilitated lending on a pro-rata basis between the selected positions if total selection member long position is greater than total selection member short position for a given financial instrument and borrowing on a pro-rata

basis if total selection member short position is greater than total selection member long position for a given financial instrument.

14. (Currently Amended) A processor-implemented method for automatically identifying a counter party position for a short or long position, the method comprising:

receiving at a first terminal at least two member short positions from one or more short position parties, wherein said short position parties have authorized a third party agent to act as a counterparty to each of said short position party's on-side transactions;

receiving at said first terminal at least two member long positions from one or more long position parties, wherein said long position parties have authorized said third party agent to act as a counterparty to each of said long position party's on-side transactions;

identifying via a processor at said first terminal a selected short position from said at least two member short positions and a selected long position from said at least two member long positions, said selected short position and said selected long position identified by parameters associated with said positions;

~~providing sufficient information from said first terminal to said third party agent to allow a transaction between said selected short position party and said selected long position party; and~~

executing the transaction as ~~between members of a membership~~ between the selected member long position and the selected member short position in compliance with a membership;

wherein the transaction includes a system-facilitated lending on a pro-rata basis between the selected positions if total selection member long position is greater than total selection member short position for a given financial instrument and borrowing on a pro-rata basis if total selection member short position is greater than total selection member long position for a given financial instrument.

15. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, further comprising filtering said at least two short positions or said at least two long positions according to filter parameters.

16. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein said filter parameter is a percentage.

17. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein said filter parameter is a member identity.

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein said filter parameter is a limit on the number of counter parties and wherein said at least two short positions include short positions in different securities.

19. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein identifying includes matching CUSIP information associated with said at least two short positions and CUSIP information associated with said at least two long positions.

20. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the second

first terminal acts as a third party participant and provides anonymity of members.